

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGKO 05216 030709 Z

13

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-09 NSC-10 SS-14 RSC-01 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-12 PRS-01 OMB-01 RSR-01

INRE-00 /077 W

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P R 030655 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2006

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 5216

E. O. 11652: GDS-1979

TAGS: MARR TH

SUBJECT: US MILITARY STRENGTH THAILAND

1. WE HAVE RECENTLY NOTED INCREASING INTEREST OF WASHINGTON PRESS CORPS IN US MILITARY STRENGTH FIGURES THAILAND. BELIEVE CLARIFICATION BY DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN ALONG FOLLOWING LINES WOULD BE HELPFUL.

2. US MILITARY STRENGTH IN THAILAND WAS AUGMENTED LAST YEAR WHEN USAF UNITS WERE DEPLOYED TO THAI BASES IN RESPONSE TO NVN SPRING OFFENSIVE. IT PEAKED TEMPORARILY IN SEPT 1972 AT ABOUT 46,000. WITHDRAWALS FROM SOUTH VIETNAM AND ESTABLISHMENT OF USSAG/7 AF/ JCRC HEADQUARTERS AT NAKHON PHANOM HAVE NOT REPEAT NOT INCREASED THE OVERALL

US MILITARY STRENGTH IN THAILAND WHICH HAS ACTUALLY BEEN ADJUSTED TO ABOUT 45,000. CURRENT STRENGTH OF ALL US MILITARY PERSONNEL ASSIGNED

IN THAILAND AS OF 1 APRIL IS SOMEWHAT BELOW THE 45,000 LEVEL (FYI 44,406).
UNGER

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BANGKO05216
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730431/aaaahkwa.tel
Line Count: 57
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30-Jan-2002 by collinp0>; APPROVED <14 FEB 2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971118
Subject: US MILITARY STRENGTH THAILAND
TAGS: MARR, TH
To: EA
SECSTATE WASHDC
WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005